Amendment to the Examination Regulations for the Degree Program European Master in Law and Economics (LLM) of the Faculty of Law at Universität Hamburg

dated 15 December 2021

On 10 January 2022, in accordance with Section 108 subsection 1 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG) dated 18 July 2001 (HmbVBl. p. 171) as amended on 17 June 2021 (HambGVBl. p. 468) taking into consideration the General Examination Regulations for Academic Examinations at Universität Hamburg dated 25 January 2018, 22 February 2018, and 8 November 2018, the Executive University Board ratified this amendment to Examination Regulations for the Master of Arts / Master of Laws in Law and Economics (MA/LLM) dated 14 December 2016 adopted by the Faculty of Law on 15 December 2021 pursuant to Section 91 subsection 2 number 1 HmbHG.
Section 1

1. Section 7 of the Examination Regulations for the degree program European Master in Law and Economics are amended as follows:

1.1 Subsection 5 will read:
“(5) Examinations may also be conducted as open-book examinations. An open-book examination is an examination during which books and notes may be used. The examiner must announce which materials will be permitted in a timely manner. Written and take-home examinations may be conducted as open-book examinations.”

1.2 The following is added as subsection 6:
“(6) Examinations can be conducted as take-home examinations. A take-home examination consists of a written response to a specific question that the student works on for a short period of time at home, using aids. The duration for this format must be at least 180 minutes and no more than 360 minutes long. The examiner will announce the specific duration of the examination at the beginning of the course. Take-home examinations may also be conducted as multiple-choice examinations. Tasks for a take-home examination will be given in person or in electronic form. Students will be informed of the distribution of the assignment and the submission deadline in advance. The period between the distribution of the assignment and the submission deadline may exceed the specified completion time. As per the examination regulations, students must confirm that they have completed the assignment on their own, within the period scheduled, and without using any tools or resources beyond those listed. Within the scope of evaluating take-home examinations, an external institution may be employed to check for plagiarism using a computer-assisted plagiarism detection system. Any copies of the work furnished for this purpose may not be disclosed to any third party and must be deleted once the plagiarism check has been completed.”

1.3 The following is added as subsection 7:
“(7) In appropriate cases, examinations may be conducted using a digital network (online examinations).”

1.4 The following is added as subsection 8:
“(8) Authentication is generally carried out before the examination commences or during the examination by means of official photo identification (e.g., identify card, passport), which must be shown on request. Where, pursuant to subsection 7, more than one person is taking part in the examination, the authentication is carried out in accordance with privacy laws (e.g., individually in a separate breakout room).”
1.5 The following is added as subsection 9:

“(9) To prevent cheating during an examination conducted online pursuant to subsection 7, students are obliged to set up and activate the camera and microphone of their chosen communication equipment (supervision via video). Supervision via video must be set up to impose upon the privacy of the individuals involved only to the extent required for legitimate surveillance purposes. Supervision via video is carried out by supervisors appointed by the University. Recording and automated evaluation of image or sound data from the supervision via video is not permitted. Sections 1–4 also apply to the transmission of image, video, and sound data for oral or practical examinations conducted online pursuant to subsection 7.”

1.6 The following is added as subsection 10:

“(10) If transmission of the examination task, execution of the examination task, transmission of examination responses, or supervision via video during the online examination conducted pursuant to subsection 7 are not possible for technical reasons, the examination will end at that stage, and examination performance will not be assessed. The examination attempt is considered as not having taken place. This does not apply if the student is responsible for the disruption. In the case of an oral or practical examination pursuant to subsection 7, in the event of a temporary disturbance of video or sound transmission, the examination will continue once the disruption has been rectified. If the technical disruption continues to prevent the proper conduct of the examination, the examination may be repeated at a later time. Sentences 2 and 3 apply accordingly. If the technical disruption occurs after a substantial part of the oral or practical examination has taken place, the examiner and examinee(s) may jointly agree to continue and complete the examination via another suitable format, particularly by telephone or by use of a video conference system. This does not apply to practical examinations for which visual transmission is essential for the assessment of the examination.”

1.7 The following is added as subsection 11:

“(11) Participation in an online examination pursuant to subsection 7 is voluntary. The voluntary nature of participation must be ensured by offering the respective type of examination in a non-digital form, ideally during the same examination period.”

2.

The words “or take-home examination which may be conducted as an open-book examination” must be added after the words “Written examination” in the module descriptions for Introduction to Microeconomics / Introduction to Law, Empirical Legal Studies / Quantitative Tools for Law and Economics, Concepts and Methods of Law and Economics, Public Law and Economics, Contract Law and Economics, Competition

Section 2

The amendments become effective on the day following official publication by Universität Hamburg. They shall apply to students commencing their studies from Winter Semester 2021/2022.

Hamburg, 4 February 2022

Universität Hamburg